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## Letter to The Editor

1829 Parkland Drive
Lynchburg, Va. 24503
October 10, 1978

Editor, Times-Virginian
Appomattox, Va.
Dear Sir:

Although winter doesn't arrive officially until December, the recent drop in temperature reminds us that it's on the way.

With the advent of the heating season all of us start thinking about high heating bills again. The citizens most affected by ever increasing fuel bills are the many elderly in our area who live on fixed or low incomes and are unable to absorb the additional costs for fuel to keep their home reasonably warm.

Many of your readers are aware that a Fuel Assistance Committee exists within the Central Virginia Commission on Aging to assist those citizens who have emergency fuel needs. Our committee is funded by contributions from concerned citizens, churches, businesses and other organizations throughout the Central Virginia area. The demand for assistance always exceeds the money available to purchase fuel, so we are once again asking for help from the community to help us help your neighbors.

All contributions to the fuel assistance fund will be used only to purchase fuel for the eligible needy. The administration of the fund is accomplished by the area agency on aging staff and volunteers at no cost to the fund. Your tax-deductible contributions may be sent to the following address:

Mr. Wallace Clair
Central Va. Commission on Aging
Forest Hill Center,
2620 Linkhorne Drive
Lynchburg, Virginia 24503

Very truly yours,
Neil Milne
Volunteer Member of Fuel Committee

## Thank You

To the loyal friends and generous merchants whose support made my reign as "Miss Appomattox" possible, I wish to express my most sincere appreciation. The list is way too long to mention everyone, but I wish to especially thank The Times-Virginian Printing Corporation, Mr. J. Franklin Vaughan and The Appomattox Woman's Club, who so greatly contributed to my successful and enjoyable reign as "Miss Appomattox." Again, thank you for all the courtesies shown. It was my pleasure and honor to be a representative for Appomattox.

Miss Appomattox, 1977
Gail Moore

### TAX REVOLT

Was Friday, October 13th, as unlucky for you as for me?

I received my tax tickets for 1978. They had only increased 84% over 1977!! How are we to pay these? As a farmer my income is limited and very uncertain. Many hard hours are spent, starting before sunrise and ending after dark, trying to make ends meet. For the past two years our tobacco crops have been stricken by drought. We also had to purchase silage and hay for our cattle. In the past five years cattle prices have been next to "rock bottom." Due to feed shortages, cattle had to be sold regardless of the price in order to feed the remaining herd.

To my knowledge, none of the accessors were small farmers or low income individuals—they were people that had several sources of income or farmed on a large scale basis.

I don't mind paying my share of taxes and as income rises, let the taxes go up gradually. Let's not wipe out the accomplishments of a life time in one year!

Are we suppose to sell our property to pay our taxes?

We must remember that our Board of Supervisors were not elected for life. In 1979 when the candidates approach us asking for our support, for re-election, remember your 1978 tax tickets!

John R. Harris

## Methodist Minister Opposes Pari-Mutuel Gambling

By Edward Leonard, Pastor
Memorial United Methodist Church

Gambling is an issue in which emotions more than reason are involved in decisions for or against. Many people would say they are against gambling yet participate in bingo, raffles, pools, stakes at card games, chances on guessing like beans, and so on. No one associates these petty arrangements with numbers, off-track betting, horse-race betting, lotteries and other large-scale forms of gambling.

Gambling is simply putting your money or asset in with others and allowing fate or chance to decide who gets it all.

The Christian church is opposed to gambling of all forms because of the church's very nature. The church is a community that advocates stewardship of resources and assets for all, not just a few. Stewardship is to build fellowship, the commonwealth while gambling squanders for the benefit of one or a few.

For a church to even consider any form of gambling for its own support is working against itself. Christians ought to have a church as a result of their own faith and commitment, not at the expense of others.

For the state to want to raise revenue by legalizing and profiting from horse-race gambling works against the community. It is enticing people to support government by luring people to give their assets with the hope of getting back what others have given.

Fort Early Building, Suite 101
Lynchburg, Virginia 24501
October 16, 1978

Editor, **Times Virginian**
Appomattox, Virginia 24522

Dear Sir:

Virginia voters have an unusual opportunity on November 7 to cast a vote on a clear-cut issue: Whether Virginia will legalize parimutuel gambling or whether it will not. This issue is not horse racing. It is **legalized gambling.**

We deplore the crime which plagues some other states, and to a certain extent our own. If pari-mutuel gambling is legalized it will be an attraction to organized crime to Virginia, plus siphoning off huge amounts of personal income for the gambling industry which would other wise find its way to local businesses.

Apart from this there is the human tragedy in which many of those who gamble are those who can least afford to lose. These losses are often felt in a poorer family's inability to provide for their basic necessities.

Moreover, indications are that the revenue anticipated from legalized gambling would be far less than is being claimed. But whatever the revenue it will not compensate for the threat it poses to the moral, social, political, economic, and spiritual life of the Commonwealth.

The United Methodist Church has long voiced its opposition to gambling as a menace to society, and destructive of good government. Virginia cannot afford to resort to commercial gambling in view of the ultimate consequences to the welfare of its citizens.

Respectfully,

H. Hasbrouck Hughes, Jr.
Lynchburg District Super't
The United Methodist Church

## First Baptist

Services was held at the First Baptist Church last Sunday morning at 11:00 a.m. Music was rendered by the Junior Choir. Rev. Johnson delivered the message which was enjoyed by all.

At 3:00 p.m. Mrs. M. E. Hawkes was the guest speaker. Mrs. Hawkes is a member of St. Joy Baptist Church, Buckingham. Music was rendered by the Harmonettes of Jordan. Mrs. Hawkes delivered an inspiring message. Everyone enjoyed the afternoon of good singing and preaching. We were happy to have Mrs. Hawkes son and family to worship with us. Also Deacon Jesse Kyle from St. Joy Baptist Church. We were glad to have all visitors. The program was for the gift club. Miss E. Wright was sponsored. She wishes to thank everyone who came out to make her program a success.

## Mrs. Burke To Head St. Jude's Fund Drive

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital is pleased to announce the appointment of Ms. Vickie Burke as chairperson for the fall door to door march in Appomattox, Va.

The campaign will take place in early November and the proceeds will be used to continue the work of St. Jude Hospital. Founded by entertainer Danny Thomas sixteen years ago, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital is devoted to painstaking medical research and care of children stricken with catastrophic diseases, including leukemia, Hodgkin's Disease and other forms of cancer.

St. Jude's is non-sectarian, interracial and completely free of charge to patients. Once a patient is admitted, the hospital provides total medical care and, when needed, also provides transportation and lodging for parent and child.

St. Jude's is the largest childhood cancer research center in the world. The work done there benefits not only the hospital's patients, but children everywhere because the results of this research are shared with physicians worldwide. Everyone can now share in the optimism of a growing "cure rate" because of the work at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

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## The Pastor Speaks

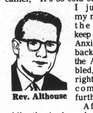
The humanist has derived his standards of value from a faith which he has discarded. A slip coach goes on running after it has become detached from the train, and cut flowers remain beautiful. You can find men who have repudiated Christian belief who are shining examples of Christian conduct. But if we want a continuous supply of flowers we must look to the garden, and carriages without engines don't run too far. If the Christian God is denied, Christian moral standards will not long survive. You can separate the sodium and the chlorine that constitute salt, but when you finish, you no longer have salt. And so, for purposes of discussion, you can talk now about a Christian's thoughts, than about his actions. But if you try to separate faith from behaviour in daily life, you no longer have Christianity. Your religion is good if it is vital and active. It is good if it nourishes in you confidence, hope, love and a sentiment of the infinite value of existence. It is good if it is allied with what is best in you against what is worst and holds forever before you the necessity of becoming a new man. It is good if it makes you understand that pain is a deliverer. If it increases your respect for the conscience of others it is good. If it renders forgiveness more easy, fortune less arrogant, duty more dear, and the beyond less visionary it is good. If it does these things however rudimentary it may be, it comes from the true source and binds you to man and God.

Rev. J. N. Williams, Pastor
Gladstone and Liberty Chapel
Baptist Churches

## BASEMENT WINDOW

Lesson for October 22, 1978

**Background Scripture:**
Exodus 20:14;
Matthew 5:27-30;
Galatians 5:16-24;
John 8:1-11.
**Devotional Reading:**
Romans 2:17-24.



Rev. Althouse

There's an old Arab story about a desert chieftan who was awakened in his tent in the middle of the night by a strange noise. "Who's there?" he called. "It's only me," replied his camel, "It's so cold outside that I just stuck my nose inside the tent to keep it warm." Anxious to get back to sleep, the Arab grumbled, "Oh, all right, but you come in no further."

After a while, the Arab awoke again and this time his camel explained that it had gotten so cold that he had stuck his head in to keep it warm. "Ah right," growled the chieftan, "but that's as far as you come." The tent was getting crowded and the Arab was beginning to be cramped for space.

As the first rays of sunlight came flooding over the desert, the Arab awoke shivering outside his tent while the camel slept peacefully and snugly inside!

**The Power Of Looking**

The moral of this shaggy camel story is obviously that if you give some people or things a small part of your life, they may end up taking over everything. If you want to keep the camel out, you don't allow even his nose inside your tent.

This is what Jesus is saying when he interprets the commandment, "You shall not commit adultery." Many of his contemporaries were smug in their belief that this commandment would never stand as a judgement upon them: they had no intention to commit adultery.

Jesus punctured their smugness when he said, "But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart" (Matthew 5:28). But who can escape such a judgement? The answer: very few. And the meaning is that one does not escape sin by stopping short of the act of adultery. It is the lustful thought that eventually produces the lustful act.

**Lock All Windows**

Jesus is also saying that, if we want to keep from committing adultery, the best place to set up our defences is with our thoughts and feelings. This is where adultery first takes place — just as murder first becomes possible in hateful thoughts — and it is here that we must begin our resistance to temptation. If we entertain what seem to be "harmless" thoughts, we are likely to find that we will be more and more engrossed in them, until at last the final step into action is easy and uninhibited.

Someone has rightly observed that, if you want to keep thieves out of your house it is not enough simply to lock the front and back doors and perhaps the first floor windows. The whole house must be secured. Many a presumably secure house has been violated through an unlocked basement window. And so it is with all the temptations of life. If we would keep them out of our lives, we must deny them *every* entrance.

(Based on outlines copyrighted by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. Release by Community Press Service.)

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## Beckham

October 16 - Rev. and Mrs. F. J. Wingfield visited Mr. and Mrs. Gibbs Martin Friday evening. Sunday dinner guest in this home was Mrs. Sonny Carter, Crystal Carter, Karen Carter and Fleming Moore.

Mrs. Clyde Moore spent the week with Mr. H. O. Martin and Emory Martin.

Mrs. Josephine Duncan and family of Martinsville visited Mr. and Mrs. Howlett Drinkard Donald Lee and Miss Eunice Martin Sunday.

Melanie Morris spent Friday night with Terri Hamlett of Appomattox. Mrs. Sylvia Hamlett Terri, Kelly and Jeanne came with Melanie home and visited with Mrs. Robert Morris Saturday afternoon.

Elisa Williams of Lynchburg was Saturday guest of Carolyn Morris at her home.

Rev. and Mrs. F. J. Wingfield were Sunday dinner guest of Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Martin.

## Rocks

October 16 - It was quite cool here, 34 degrees, not quite all of the vegetables and flowers destroyed by frost.

Billie Jean Baldwin is back home from the hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Toby Inge and Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Garret returned from Williamsburg on Tuesday afternoon.

Get well wishes to Odelle Ranson who was sick over the week end.

Get well wishes goes out to Rev. David L. Bailey Sr. who is in intensive care at Virginia Baptist Hospital.

William B. Ranson returned home last week from a Richmond Hospital after surgery there. He is doing well.

A number from Rocks attended the association at Concord Church on Thursday night and Red Oak Church on Friday night.

Mrs. Gladys Harvey and Mrs. Clarence Richardson were dinner guest of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Richardson and sons of Pamplin on Sunday.

Deep sympathy is extended the Rosser family on the sudden death of Mrs. Virginia Rosser on Saturday night. She will be greatly missed.

A number attended the Memorial Service for Mrs. Hilda Sizemore Harless at the Pamplin Methodist Church Sunday afternoon who passed away on September 24th.

Congratulations to Luann Crain and her sheep dog Dooley who took second place in the Working Dog Class at the State Fair in Richmond on September 22nd. Luann is a freshman at Appomattox County High School and has been in 4-H work since the fourth grade.

Mrs. Estelle Garrett entered Virginia Baptist Hospital Sunday afternoon for treatments. Get well wishes go out to her.

The Lewis Dickerson Sunday School Class went on a fishing trip at Buggs Island on Saturday.

They all had a wonderful time and good luck fishing but some lost their fish. They fell back after being caught.

Larry Williams and Steve of Waynesboro were dinner guest of Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Roach on Friday.

Mrs. Lockie Martin and Mrs. Margaret Marshall and daughter, Dorothy were visiting Miss Maggie Branch in the Jamerson Nursing home recently. Miss Branch celebrated her 95th birthday.

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